



Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education

— Making a positive difference through education and service —

September 6, 2006

Dear School Administrator:

Enclosed is a timeline of important dates pertaining to the two **summer academies for gifted students** sponsored by the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education. **Please copy and distribute these to all counselors, teachers, or administrators who are responsible for preparing the academy nomination forms.** It is crucial that the directions and deadlines of the forms be followed in order to select the most appropriate student(s) and to avoid disqualifying the school's nominee(s). All pages or components of the nomination forms must be included at the time they are submitted.

Please note that the deadlines for student nomination forms and faculty/staff application for the Missouri Fine Arts Academy are considerably earlier than the deadlines for the Missouri Scholars Academy. Because each student at the Missouri Fine Arts Academy is given applied lessons in his or her art form, the students must be selected early in the year so that appropriate faculty can be hired.

The 2007 Missouri Fine Arts Academy will be held on the campus of Missouri State University in Springfield on June 10-June 30, 2007. The 2007 Missouri Scholars Academy will be held on the campus of the University of Missouri in Columbia on June 10-June 30, 2007.

The enclosed timeline is intended as a guide for the staff members responsible for encouraging interested students to apply for the academies, take the necessary tests, and/or prepare a video or portfolio, as indicated. **Note that the information regarding access to student nomination forms on the web for both Academies are mailed to district superintendents.** Complete information about the nomination process will be included with the web access letter. This letter is to assist you in your planning. **A letter explaining the process for accessing the Missouri Fine Arts Academy nomination forms on-line will be mailed in mid-September and the letter explaining the process for accessing the Missouri Scholars Academy nomination forms on-line will be mailed in mid-November.**

Brochures describing each Academy, as well a flyer about each Academy entitled "What It Is," can be accessed on the Department web site at dese.mo.gov/divimprove/gifted. Of course, if you have other questions about either Academy, you may call my office.

Thank you for your assistance in making these unique programs available to your students.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "David Welch".

David Welch, Director
Gifted Education Programs

Enclosure



Timeline for DESE's Summer Academies for Gifted Students

Important Dates	Missouri Scholars Academy	Missouri Fine Arts Academy
Mid September, 2006		Student nomination forms available on the web
September through December 2006	Testing window for PLAN	
October 2006		Faculty/staff application forms available on the web dese.mo.gov/divimprove/gifted
October 18-21, 2006	Scheduled dates for PSAT	
November 2006	Student nomination forms available on the web	
November 17, 2006 (postmark)		Deadline for return of student nominations (including portfolios)
November 2006	Faculty/staff application forms available on the web dese.mo.gov/divimprove/gifted .	
December 15, 2006 (postmark)		Deadline for return of faculty/staff applications
January 12, 2007	Deadline for return of faculty/staff applications	
End of January, 2007		Notification of student selection process results
End of January, 2007		Faculty selection completed
February 9, 2007 (postmark)	Deadline for return of student nominations	
March 2007	Faculty selection completed	
April 2007	Notification of student selection process results	
June 10 – June 30, 2007	Dates for 2007 Missouri Scholars Academy	Dates for 2007 Missouri Fine Arts Academy

